

Amendments to the Claims

What Is Claimed Is

1. (Withdrawn) A process for making a bandcast tobacco sheet comprising the steps of:

 preparing a slurry containing a solid mixture of from about 15 to 40% by
weight tobacco, from about 15 to 50% by weight wood pulp, and from about 15 to
40% by weight binder, said solid mix being from about 2 to 8% by weight of water in
said slurry;

 casting the slurry onto a casting surface; and,

 drying said slurry to form a sheet of bandcast tobacco.
2. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1, said drying being at 180°F to 220°F.
3. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1, said wood pulp being added to said slurry
firstly, said tobacco being added to said slurry secondly, and said binder being added to said slurry
thirdly, each of said wood pulp, tobacco, and binder being dissolved or dispersed before adding a next
of said wood pulp, binder, and tobacco.
4. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 including the addition of up to 30% by weight of
menthol in said solid mixture.
5. The process of claim 1, said tobacco being approximately 27% by weight of said mixture, said
wood pulp being approximately 13.5% by weight of said mixture, said binder being approximately

27% by weight of said mixture, said mixture including additionally menthol at approximately 20% by weight.

6. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1, said binder being an alginate.

7. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 6, said alginate being sodium alginate.

8. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 including the addition of a humectant.

9. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 8, said humectant being glycerine.

10. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 9, said glycerine being up to 30% by weight of said mixture.

11. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 further comprising:

cutting said sheet of bandcast tobacco into longitudinal strips;

inserting a plurality of said longitudinal strips of said bandcast tobacco into a cigarette adjacent a column of tobacco.

12. (Withdrawn) A process for making a bandcast tobacco sheet comprising the steps of:

preparing a slurry including wood pulp, binder, a humectant, tobacco, and a flavoring,

said wood pulp being from 5 to 15% by weight and dispersed firstly into said slurry,

said tobacco being from 15 to 40% by weight and dispersed secondly into said slurry,

said binder being 15 to 40% by weight and dispersed thirdly into said slurry, said

humectant being up to 30% by weight and dispersed fourthly into said slurry, and then

up to 30% by weight of menthol being dispersed lastly into said slurry, said slurry

having a total solids content being 2% to 8% by weight of said slurry;

casting said slurry onto a casting band, said casting band being maintained at from

180°F to 220°F; and,

drying said slurry to form a sheet of bandcast tobacco.

13. (Currently Amended) A cigarette with burn rate modification comprising:

a tobacco column surrounded by an outer wrap paper; and,

a partial inner wrap material comprising a plurality of substantially equidistantly spaced partial inner wrap strips extending longitudinally of said substantially along said tobacco column and disposed between said outer wrap positioned away from a seam of said outer wrap, said partial inner wrap strips being less than about 15mm in width,
said partial inner wrap strips being ~~one or more strips~~ of a bandcast tobacco sheet which is comprised of from about 5 to 15% by weight of wood pulp, from about 15 to 40% by weight of binder, and from about 15 to 40% by weight of tobacco, said tobacco and said binder being in a ratio of about 1.0 to 1.0.

14. (Original) The cigarette of claim 13 including up to about 30% by weight of menthol in said inner wrap.

15. (Original) The cigarette of claim 14 wherein said menthol is approximately 20% by weight of said inner wrap.
16. (Original) The cigarette of claim 13 including up to about 30% by weight of a humectant in said inner wrap.
17. (Original) The cigarette of claim 16, said humectant being glycerine.
18. (Original) The cigarette of claim 17, said glycerine being approximately 13.5% by weight.
19. (Original) The cigarette of claim 13, said binder being an alginate.
20. (Original) The cigarette of claim 19, said alginate being sodium alginate.
21. (Original) The cigarette of claim 20, said sodium alginate being about 27% by weight.
22. (Cancelled)
23. (Currently Amended) A bandcast tobacco sheet which is comprised of from about 5 to 15% by weight of wood pulp, from about 15 to 40% by weight of binder, and from about 15 to 40% by weight of tobacco, said tobacco and said binder being in a ratio of about 1.0 to 1.0.
24. (Original) The sheet of claim 23 including up to about 30% by weight of menthol.
25. (Original) The sheet of claim 24 wherein said menthol is approximately 20% by weight of said sheet.
26. (Original) The sheet of claim 23 including up to about 30% by weight of a humectant.

27. (Original) The sheet of claim 26, said humectant being glycerine.

28. (Original) The sheet of claim 27, said glycerine being approximately 13.5% by weight.

29. (Original) The sheet of claim 23, said binder being an alginate.

30. (Original) The sheet of claim 29, said alginate being sodium alginate.

31. (Original) The sheet of claim 30, said sodium alginate being about 27% by weight.

32. (Cancelled)

[[32]] 33. (Currently Amended) The sheet of claim 23 formed in a plurality of longitudinal strips, said strips inserted into a cigarette adjacent a column of tobacco.

[[33]] 34. (Currently Amended) The sheet of claim 32 wherein said plurality of longitudinal strips are a first and a second strip equidistant from each other, and positioned away from the seam of the outer wrap of said cigarette.